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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/716,806	11/18/2003	Steven E. Lentsch	163.1320USC1	6770
7590	05/24/2004		EXAMINER	
Attn: Dennis R. Daley MERCHANT & GOULD P.C. P.O. Box 2903 Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903			HARDEE, JOHN R	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1751	
DATE MAILED: 05/24/2004				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.	10/716,806	Applicant(s)	LENTSCH ET AL.
Examiner	John R. Hardee	Art Unit	1751

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-26 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
6) Claim(s) ____ is/are rejected.
7) Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
8) Claim(s) 1-26 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restriction

1. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

I. Claims 1-12, drawn to rinse agents, classified in class 510, numerous subclasses.

II. Claims 13-26, drawn to methods of rinsing, classified in class 134, subclass 22.1+.

2. The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

Inventions I and II are related as product and process of use. The inventions can be shown to be distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) the process for using the product as claimed can be practiced with another materially different product or (2) the product as claimed can be used in a materially different process of using that product (MPEP § 806.05(h)). In the instant case the product may be used as a shampoo.

3. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

4. Having chosen one of Groups I and II, applicant is further restricted under 35 U.S.C. 121 to one of the following inventions:

A. The composition or method wherein the sheeting agent comprises a block copolymer.

- B. The composition or method wherein the sheeting agent comprises an alcohol ethoxylate.
- C. The composition or method wherein the sheeting agent comprises an alkyl polyglycoside.
- D. The composition or method wherein the sheeting agent comprises a beta-N-alkyl iminodipropionate.
- E. The composition or method wherein the sheeting agent comprises a beta-N-alkyl aminopropionate.
- F. The composition or method wherein the sheeting agent comprises an imidazoline carboxylate.
- G. The composition or method wherein the sheeting agent comprises an N-alkyl betaine.
- H. The composition or method wherein the sheeting agent comprises a sulfobetaine or a sultaine.
- J. The composition or method wherein the sheeting agent comprises an amine oxide.
- K. The composition or method wherein the sheeting agent comprises a polybetaine polysiloxane.
- L. The composition or method wherein the sheeting agent comprises a carboxylic acid salt.
- M. The composition or method wherein the sheeting agent comprises a sulfonic acid salt or a sulfuric acid ester salt.

N. The composition or method wherein the sheeting agent comprises a phosphoric acid ester or a polyphosphoric acid ester.

O. The composition or method wherein the sheeting agent comprises a perfluorinated anionic.

I. The composition or method wherein the sheeting agent comprises something other than the surfactants in Groups A-O. If this group is chosen, further restriction may be necessary.

5. Compositions or methods using these sheeting agents are separately patentable. Disclosure of one of these sheeting agents would not anticipate or make obvious any of the other sheeting agents.

6. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art because of their recognized divergent subject matter, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

7. Because the restriction requirement is relatively complex, no telephone restriction was attempted.

Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

8. Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim

remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to the examiner, Dr. John R. Hardee, whose telephone number is (571) 272-1318. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8:00 until 4:30. In the event that the examiner is not available, his supervisor, Dr. Yogendra Gupta, may be reached at (571) 272-1316.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



John R. Hardee
Primary Examiner
May 19, 2004